



Helping You Today
So You Succeed Tomorrow



Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work

Date:
Wednesday,
February 24,
2021

Time:
3 – 4:30 PM ET



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Accessing Today's Webinar (Slide 3 of 3)

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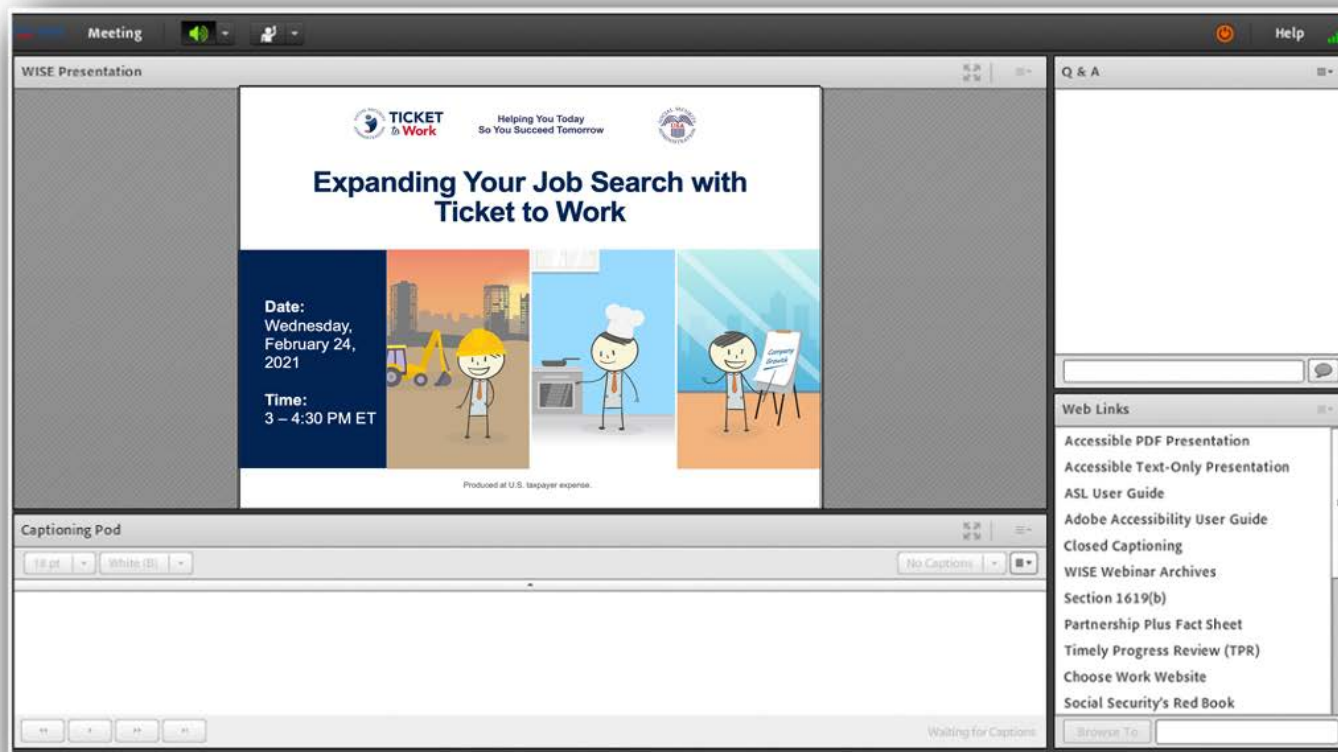
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Adobe Connect Accessibility User Guide

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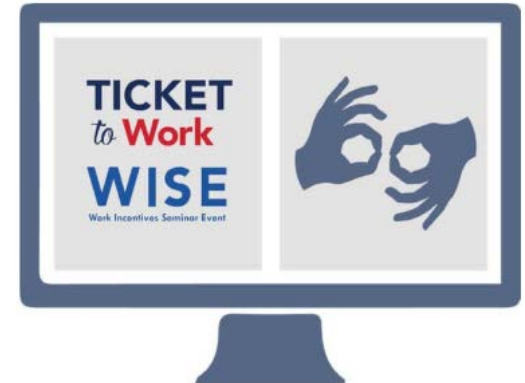
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- Real-time captioning is provided during this webinar
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American Sign Language (ASL)

- If you're fluent in **ASL** and would like support during today's webinar, follow the link below that provides instructions to connect with an interpreter through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Video Relay Service (VRS)
- ASL User Guide:
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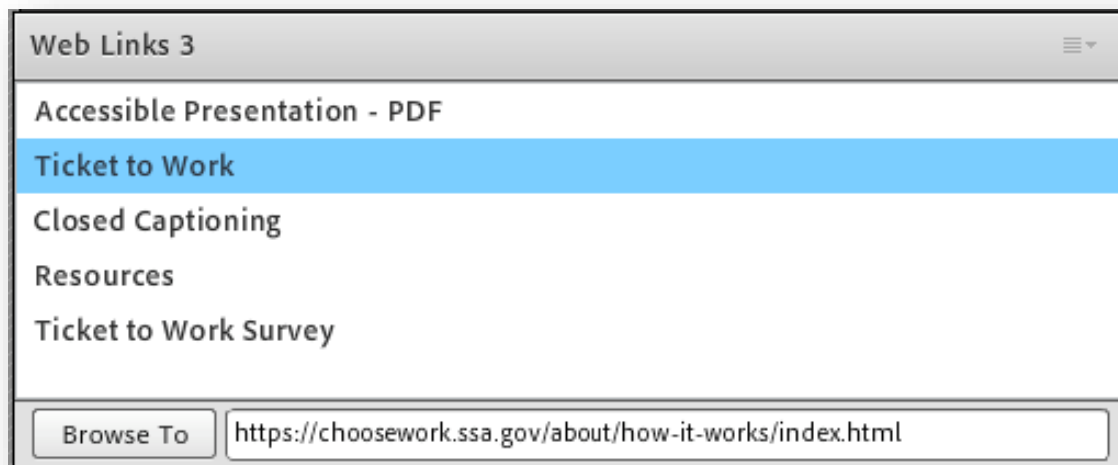
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- For Q&A: Please use the **Q&A pod** to submit any questions you have during the webinar, and we will direct the questions accordingly during the Q&A portion
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- Please use the **Web Links pod** to find the resources presented during today's webinar
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Archived Events

Please note: This webinar is being recorded, and the archive will be available within 2 weeks on the Choose Work website at http://bit.ly/WISE_OnDemand.

The screenshot shows the 'WISE On Demand' page on the Ticket to Work website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Success Stories, Find Help, Find a Job, Webinar & Tutorials (which is highlighted), Library, Blog, and Contact. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads 'You are here: Home / Webinars & Tutorials / WISE On Demand'. The main content area features the heading 'WISE On Demand' and a paragraph stating that free, monthly WISE webinars provide information for financial independence through work. A list of 12 archived webinars is provided, each with a date and a link to the webinar. On the right side of the page, there is a logo for 'TICKET to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event ON DEMAND'.

TICKET to Work WISE
Work Incentive Seminar Event
ON DEMAND

- December 2020: [Ticket to Work and Mental Health](#)
- November 2020: [Debunking the Three Biggest Myths about Disability Benefits and Work](#)
- October 2020: [Working from Home with Ticket to Work](#)
- September 2020: [Understanding Ticket to Work: How to Help Your Clients and the People You Serve](#)
- August 2020: [Ticket to Work and the Path to Employment](#)
- July 2020: [Reasonable Accommodations and the Path to Employment](#)
- June 2020: [Ticket to Work and Mental Health](#)
- May 2020: [Working from Home with Ticket to Work](#)
- April 2020: [Support on Your Journey to Employment](#)
- March 2020: [Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work](#)
- February 2020: [Choosing a Service Provider That's Right For You](#)
- January 2020: [Debunking the Three Biggest Myths About Disability Benefits and Work](#)

Technical Assistance

If you experience any technical difficulties during the webinar, please use the **Q&A pod** to send a message, or you may email webinars@choosework.ssa.gov.



Presenters

Welcome and Introductions

Moderator: Sarah Hyland, WISE Moderator

Presenter: Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D., Cornell University

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us! Today, we'll discuss how Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program can help you and answer questions related to:

- Social Security's Ticket Program
- Your Employment Team
- Section 503 for Federal Contractors
- Federal Employment – Schedule A
- Apprenticeships



Objectives

At the close of today's webinar, you will:

- Better understand the **Ticket Program**
- Know your **employment team**
- Understand how **Section 503** opens opportunities for you
- Identify how **Schedule A** can help you in your job search
- Know if an **apprenticeship** is right for you
- Become familiar with additional **job search resources**





Ticket to Work Program: Support on Your Journey to Work

Social Security Disability Benefits Programs



Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



Starting the Journey

Only you can decide if work is the **right choice for you.**



Why Choose Work?

Earning a living through employment is not something everyone can do, but it may be **right for you**. Once people understand the many **free services and supports** available to them, they often find that the rewards far outweigh the risks.



What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 1 of 2)

The Ticket to Work Program

- Is a free and **voluntary** Social Security program
- Offers **career development** for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work



What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 2 of 2)

The Ticket to Work Program connects you with **free employment services** to help you:

- Decide if working is right for you
- Prepare for work
- Find a job
- Succeed at work



How Does the Ticket Program Work?

If you decide to participate, you may choose to receive services from authorized Ticket to Work service providers like **Employment Networks (EN)** or your **State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency**.



Employment Networks (EN)

An EN is a private or public organization that has an agreement with Social Security to provide **free employment support services** to people who are eligible for the Ticket Program.

- Many state public workforce systems, such as American Job Centers, are **Workforce ENs**



How Can Working with an EN Help You?

Services and supports are designed to help you on the path to financial independence through work and can include helping you to:

- Identify your **work goals**
- Write and review your **resume**
- Prepare for **interviews**
- Request **reasonable accommodations**
- Receive **benefits counseling**



State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency

A State VR agency provides a wide variety of services to help people with disabilities return to work, enter new lines of work, or enter the workforce for the first time. A State VR agency can offer benefits counseling and may also be able to help you with:

- **Vocational rehabilitation**
- **Training and education**

Some states have separate VR agencies that serve individuals who are blind and visually impaired.



What Are Work Incentives?

Work Incentives are special Social Security rules and programs that allow you to:

- Receive **training** for new skills
- Improve the **skills** you already have
- Pursue your **education**
- Try **different jobs**
- Start a **career**
- Gain **confidence**

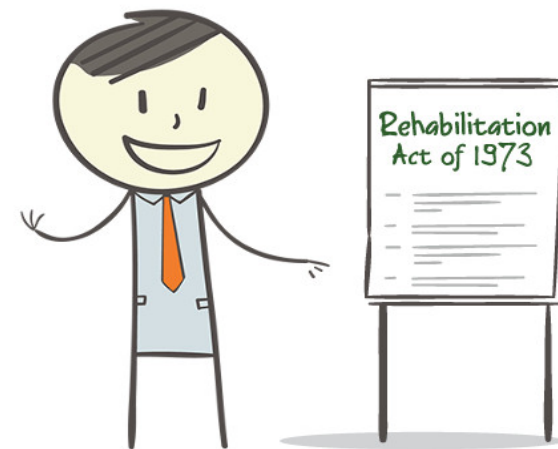


Section 503 and Federal Contractors



What Is Section 503?

- Part of the **Rehabilitation Act of 1973** that helps create job opportunities for people with disabilities
- Prohibits federal contractors/subcontractors from discriminating against people with disabilities
- Requires **affirmative action** in recruiting, hiring, training, promoting, and retaining people with disabilities



What Are Section 503 Provisions?

- Allows you to **voluntarily self-identify** as a person with a disability before being offered a job
- Requires contractors to invite employees to self-identify as an individual with a disability **every 5 years**
- Establishes a **7% utilization** goal for contractors hiring/retaining workers with disabilities
 - Contractors must develop a plan to address any issues preventing their success in meeting this goal

Angel's Story (Slide 1 of 2)

- Angel suffered from neck and back injuries after 2 tours of duty with the U.S. Air Force
- His willingness to identify as an individual with a disability was an asset during the hiring process
- With help from his Ticket Program service provider, he received:
 - Free benefits counseling
 - Information about Work Incentives
 - Reasonable accommodations to help him succeed

Angel's Story (Slide 2 of 2)

"Being back at work has had a positive impact in so many areas of my life," Angel reflects. "I've been able to [show] my children the rewards that can go with perseverance and resilience. The job has helped me build confidence, maintain good mental health, and regain a sense of accomplishment... all vital for the next chapter in our lives."

Angel

A Ticket to Work Success Story



<http://bit.ly/angel-success>

Federal Employment: Schedule A




What Is Schedule A?

- If you're a person with a disability, you can apply and compete for **any Federal Government job for which you are eligible** and meet the qualifications; but you also may be eligible for a special hiring authority.
- **Schedule A** refers to a special hiring authority that gives Federal agencies an optional way to hire people with disabilities.
- Applying under Schedule A offers an exception to the traditional competitive hiring process. You can apply for jobs using Schedule A if you are a person with an **intellectual disability, a severe physical disability, or a psychiatric disability.**

What Are Schedule A Requirements?

- To be eligible for Schedule A, you must provide a "**proof of a disability**" letter stating that you have an intellectual disability, severe physical disability, or psychiatric disability
- You can get this letter from:
 - Your doctor
 - A licensed medical professional
 - A licensed vocational rehabilitation specialist
 - Any federal, state, or local agency that issues or provides disability benefits
- Sample Schedule A letters can be found at:
<https://bit.ly/schedule-A>

How Do I Know a Job Is Open to Individuals With a Disability?

- Visit [usajobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov).
- In the job announcement, look for the **This job is open to** section. When a job is open to **Individuals with a disability**, you'll see this icon:  – There may be other groups listed that can also apply.
- You can also select the **Individuals with disabilities** filter in the search function. Your results will display all jobs open to individuals with disabilities.

What Is a Selective Placement Program Coordinator?

- Selective Placement Program Coordinators (SPPC) help agencies **recruit, hire, and accommodate** people with disabilities.
- If you are a person with a disability and interested in a job opportunity, contact the agency SPPC using <http://bit.ly/SPPC-directory>.

What Are My Next Steps?

- If you're interested in Schedule A, get a **letter** to document your disability
- Update your resume with skills, abilities, and references
- Contact the agency's SPPC
- If you'd like additional assistance, contact the Ticket to Work Help Line at **1-866-968-7842** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)** to get a list of service providers who can help you, or visit the **Find Help Tool** at: choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp



Jesus's Story (Slide 1 of 2)

- Jesus was born with spina bifida and spent most of his childhood using a wheelchair or crutches
- With help from his Ticket Program Employment Network, he:
 - Received benefits counseling and Work Incentives information
 - Developed an Individual Work Plan (IWP)
 - Received resume writing and job lead support to transition in his career
- Jesus qualified for Schedule A, allowing his employer to avoid the long and competitive hiring process

Jesus's Story (Slide 2 of 2)

“Work has helped me expand my social circles and my support network as well. I am very happy knowing that I can be independent, achieve the goals I set for myself, and I’m more confident every day. The Ticket to Work Program... the help I received through it... helped me find my way to work at my own pace, and I’m grateful for that.”

Jesus

A Ticket to Work Success Story



<https://bit.ly/jesus-success>

Apprenticeships



What Is an Apprenticeship?

- Is a training program combining work with learning and training, both on and off the job
- Combines the development of **theoretical knowledge** regarding a particular occupation or range of occupations with **practical experience** gained from doing the job



What Is the Value of an Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeships offer a **way into an industry**
- They are **real jobs** with **paid salaries**
- An experienced worker will **mentor** you
- Opportunities may exist to **advance** in your chosen career



What Are the Educational Benefits of Apprenticeships?

- Gain a variety of **job-specific** and **transferable skills**
- Use apprenticeship as a **pathway to college**
- Earn **college credit** or even a **bachelor's degree**
- Earn a **credential** upon completion



Questions?



Taking the Next Step on the Path to Employment



Job Posting and Apprenticeship Resources

- American Job Centers (AJCs):
<https://www.careeronestop.org/>
- USA Jobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/>
- Federal Agency Websites:
<https://www.usa.gov/federal-agencies>
- US DOL: <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/>
- Apprenticeship Job Finder:
<http://bit.ly/apprenticeship-finder>

Need Help Finding a Job?

- Check out our **Find A Job** page!
- Get started on your job search and connect with a Ticket Program service provider along the way!
- Connect with resources that can help you advance your employment journey.



[choosework.ssa.gov/
find-a-job/index.html](https://choosework.ssa.gov/find-a-job/index.html)

How Do You Find a Service Provider?

- If you're ready to find a service provider, visit choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp
- Search by:
 - ZIP code
 - Services offered
 - Disability type
 - Languages spoken
 - Provider type (EN, Workforce EN, VR, WIPA, or PABSS)
- Or call the **Ticket to Work Help Line** for a list of service providers at **1-866-968-7842** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm ET



Questions?



How to Get Started

Social Security's Ticket to Work Program has a variety of service providers and other resources ready to help you get started!

Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

Visit: choosework.ssa.gov

Connect:

Visit choosework.ssa.gov/contact/index.html to find us on social media and subscribe to blog and email updates!





Opt-In to Receive Text Messages

- Get advice and encouragement, and read stories about people who achieved financial independence with help from the Ticket to Work Program.
- If you're interested in receiving text messages from the Ticket Program, please text **TICKET** to **474747**. Standard messaging rates may apply.

Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!

TICKET
to **Work**

WISE
Work Incentive Seminar Event

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Time: 3 – 4:30 PM ET

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or call 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**

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[choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise.](https://choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise)

